

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 271767

ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 HA-05 CA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00
INSE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:BAFLECK:EBS

APPROVED BY EA/PHL:BAFLECK

HA/ORM:LARTHUR (INFO)

SCA/VO:LMILES (SUBS)

-----111943 130024Z /70

R 121904Z NOV 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 271767

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIS, PINT, RP

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF LOPEZ AND ALMEDA LOPEZ FAMILIES

REF: MANILA 17146

1. RAUL MANGLAPUS CALLED ON COUNTRY DIRECTOR FLECK NOVEMBER 11 TO REPORT THAT MRS. EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR. HAD DECIDED NOT TO GO TO HONG KONG BECAUSE SHE FEARED FOR HER SAFETY THERE BUT DESIRED TO GO TO CANADA TO WAIT FOR ADMISSION TO US. HOWEVER, CANADIAN EMBASSY IN MANILA WAS RELUCTANT TO ISSUE VISA UNLESS ASSURANCE COULD BE GIVEN THAT MRS. LOPEZ WOULD EVENTUALLY DEPART CANADA FOR THIRD COUNTRY. MANGLAPUS ASKED WHETHER AMERICAN EMBASSY MANILA COULD BE INSTRUCTED TO INFORM CANADIAN EMBASSY THAT MRS. LOPEZ WOULD EVENTUALLY BE ADMITTED TO US.

2. FLECK REPLIED THAT USG COULD NOT GIVE ANY GUARANTEE IN ADVANCE THAT MRS. LOPEZ WOULD BE ADMITTED TO US INASMUCH
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 271767

AS DECISION COULD ONLY BE MADE BY INS AFTER SHE SUBMITTED APPLICATION. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUERY, FLECK SAID HE COULD SEE NO REASON WHY EMBASSY MANILA, IF ASKED, COULD NOT INFORM CANADIAN EMBASSY THAT EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR. HAD BEEN GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM UN US.

3. FLECK REITERATED THAT LOCATION FROM WHICH MRS. LOPEZ APPLIES FOR ADMISSION TO US IS IMMATERIAL TO USG, SO LONG AS SHE IS OUTSIDE OF PHILIPPINES WHEN SHE APPLIES. MANGLAPUS SAID SITES OTHER THAN CANADA WHICH ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE ITALY, WHERE HE SAID HE HAS CONNECTIONS WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS; GREECE (WHERE MRS. LOPEZ COULD STAY WITH PSINAKIS RELATIVES); OR OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. BUT FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS MAKE CANADA MORE ATTRACTIVE, PLUS THE PROSPECT THAT HER HUSBAND COULD VISIT HER THERE ONCE HE OBTAINS REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENT. MANGLAPUS INDICATED ON DEPARTURE THAT HE WOULD ADVISE MRS. LOPEZ TO APPROACH CANADIAN EMBASSY AGAIN AND, IF NECESSARY, HAVE THEM SEEK VERIFICATION OF HER HUSBAND'S STATUS FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY.

4. MANGLAPUS REVEALED THAT EARLIER INFORMATION PROVIDED DEPT. WAS PARTIALLY INCORRECT. INS DISTRICT OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO INFORMED LOPEZ AND ALMEDA LOPEZ NOVEMBER 8 THAT THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM WERE APPROVED. HOWEVER, OSMENA WAS TOLD BY INS DISTRICT OFFICE IN LOS ANGELES THAT STATE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION "LOST". OSMENA REPORTEDLY UNPERTURBED AND CONFIDENT THAT APPROVAL WILL ULTIMATELY BE FORTHCOMING, AS ARE WE.

5. SEE NO REASON WHY CYNTHIA ALMEDA LOPEZ SHOULD NOT TRAVEL AT HER CONVENIENCE. VANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 271767

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISAS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE271767
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BAFLECK:EBS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770419-1362
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771165/aaaacdsk.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN EA
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANILA 17146
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 611628
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF LOPEZ AND ALMEDA LOPEZ FAMILIES
TAGS: OVIP, PINT, RP, (LOPEZ, ALMEDA)
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/308f801b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009